

## Wisconsin Chosen to Participate in National Governors Association Policy Academy on Reducing Prescription Drug Abuse

Last year, Wisconsin was one of six states selected to participate in a National Governors Association (NGA) Policy Academy on Reducing Prescription Drug Abuse. Participating states are charged with developing and implementing a comprehensive, coordinated statewide strategy to reduce the abuse and diversion of prescription drugs while maintaining access for patients with a legitimate medical need.

Prescription drug abuse has reached epidemic levels in Wisconsin and the rest of the nation. Statistics documenting the epidemic are abundant. One of the most startling facts is that in the 25-64 age group, there are now more deaths from prescription opiate overdoses than motor vehicle crashes. Over 80% of heroin users began by abusing prescription drugs, so prescription drug abuse is not only an epidemic in and of itself, but it is also leading to our state's and country's heroin problems as well.

Wisconsin's participation in the program is managed by a Core Team, including Medical Examining Board member, Dr. Timothy Westlake, a member of the Pharmacy Examining Board, a representative from the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, and staff of the Medical Society of Milwaukee, the Department of Safety and Professional Services, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Health Services. The Core Team identified recommendation areas for the statewide strategy and engaged a large and diverse group of stakeholders to provide expertise and suggestions for each of the recommendation areas.

The recommendation areas for the statewide strategy are: (1) Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) optimization; (2) Treatment; (3) Prescriber practices; (4) Prescriber and public education; and (5) Law enforcement.

See NGA Policy Academy Page 2

### Chair's Corner

By Dr. Kenneth Simons

"When you have once seen the glow of happiness on the face of a beloved person, you know that a man can have no vocation but to awaken that light on the faces surrounding him. In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer." - Albert Camus

The above quote from Camus is reflective of what we as healers aspire to in caring for the patients who entrust their care to us; to awaken the light in them such that they achieve all the potential within themselves and in addition, to heal to the extent possible, those burdens of disease which they bear and bring to us. These inspirational words also compel us as physicians to persevere and find our inner strength to go on despite the challenges we too face. This particular quote also may be taken more literally such that I hope this edition of the MEB Newsletter finds all of you enjoying some good weather after surviving the depths of a most cold Wisconsin winter. This natural cycle of nature, coupled with the wisdom that comes from having lived a number of years in these environs, provides

each of us with the perspective that despite its length, winter will indeed recede and give way to spring and summer. The word perspective is derived from the Latin perspectus -- to look through, see clearly from and Webster's dictionary defines it as the capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance.

See Chair's Corner Page 3



Kenneth Simons

#### **Current Name and Address Required**

All applicants and recipients of a credential are required by Wisconsin Statute to notify the Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) when they change their name or address from that most recently provided to the Department (most likely the name and address you included on your application for credential). The applicant or credential holder has 30 days to notify the Department from the date the change is made. Failure to comply in a timely manner may result in a \$50 forfeiture.

Please keep in mind that if you do not provide the Department with name or address changes, you may not receive important information such as complaint and investigation notices concerning your credential. The Department is only legally required to try to contact you at your last known address as indicated in Department records. Finally, it is considered "unprofessional conduct" and subject to discipline on your credential if you fail to cooperate in a timely manner with a Board investigation filed against a license holder. If you fail to update your name or address, you take the chance of not receiving important correspondence from the Department, triggering the "unprofessional conduct" provisions. See Wis. Stat. §§ 440.035(4), 440.11 and Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.03(3)(g). You can update your name or address via the Department website at http://dsps.wi.gov.

#### NGA Policy Academy from Page 1

While all of the recommendation areas are important, the recommendation areas that affect physicians most are: PDMP optimization; prescriber practices; and prescriber education. There has been much attention placed on the role and responsibility of

physician prescribing practices in the epidemic. However, it is readily apparent that most physicians who prescribe opiates do so responsibly and are not a part of the problem. But there is a small percentage of physicians whose prescriptive practices fuel the epidemic and may be referred to as "problem prescribers." The intention of any regulatory or statutory changes that may result from the Policy Academy would be to address the issue of "problem prescribers" while not impeding the workflow of the majority of physicians and enabling patients with a legitimate need to access appropriate medications. One size does not fit all.

There are several changes that have worked well to combat prescription drug abuse problems in other states: (1) mandatory enrollment in the PDMP program as a condition of licensure; (2) mandatory use of the PDMP in specif-

ic situations; (3) mandatory targeted CME focused on prescription drug abuse and pain management for physicians who prescribe narcotics; (4) guidelines for responsible opioid prescribing; and (5) greater emphasis by regulatory boards in adjudicating diversion and inappropriate opioid prescriptive practices.

The PDMP is a valuable tool for physicians to have in their arsenal to help guide clinical decision-making around the judicious prescription of opiates. Many states across the country

have enacted policy changes along with rule and statutory changes to their prescription monitoring programs in an attempt to reign in the over-prescribing and prescription drug misuse and abuse that is occurring.

> The best way to increase use of the PDMP is to make the data easier to access. Increasing the selective use of PDMP data has been shown to decrease the supply of abused prescription opiates. Since its inception, the PDMP has undergone significant change, including the addition of data from other states and the integration of data into electronic health records. For example, the Wisconsin Statewide Health Information Network (WISHIN) has already built and implemented a one-click-to-PDMP-data button into its Community Health Record, and EPIC and other electronic medical record systems are researching and testing the feasibility of similar interfaces right now. Further enhancement of the PDMP is likely to continue due to the great interest in the success of the PDMP and the availability of federal grant funds.

While the Policy Academy continues, it is important to note that Board action is not currently under consideration as part of the Policy Academy recommendations. The Board is very aware that in some circumstances, an unintended effect of regulation is to impede workflow and interfere with patient care. To that end, the Board is committed to addressing the problem of prescription drug abuse while minimizing the impact on physician practices and the delivery of high quality patient care.



#### Chair's Corner from Page 1

Those who serve on the MEB also need to maintain perspective, to view things in their true relations or relative importance. The public and professional members of the MEB frequently address matters that represent the unfortunate failings of a decided minority of the medical profession such that we could possibly forget that the overwhelming majority of our colleagues are caring, compassionate, dedicated physicians committed to the welfare of their patients and communities. It would be understandable for the MEB to lose perspective when dealing with the issues impacting our profession that come before the Board: over-prescribing; boundary violations; wrong site surgery; and substance abuse, to



## Medical Examining Board Membership and Staff Assignments

The Medical Examining Board consists of 13 members. The members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

#### **Board Members:**

Kenneth Simons, M.D., Chairperson (Milwaukee)

Timothy Swan, M.D., Vice Chairperson (Marshfield)

Mary Jo Capodice, D.O., Secretary (Sheboygan)

James Barr, Public Member (Chetek)

Greg Collins, Public Member (Ashwaubenon)

Rodney Erickson, M.D., Physician Member (Tomah)

Suresh Misra, M.D., Physician Member (Milwaukee)

Carolyn Ogland Vukich, M.D., Physician Member (Madison)

Michael Phillips, M.D., Physician Member (Oconomowoc)

Sridhar Vasudevan, M.D., Physician Member (Belgium)

Timothy Westlake, M.D., Physician Member (Hartland)

Russell Yale, M.D., Physician Member (Fox Point)

Robert Zondag, Public Member (Delafield)

Information on how to apply for appointment to the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board can be found through the Office of the Governor:

http://walker.wi.gov/governor-office/apply-to-serve/boards-commissions

#### **Department of Safety and Professional Services**

#### **Administrative Staff:**

Thomas Ryan, Executive Director Gretchen Mrozinski, Legal Counsel Taylor Thompson, Bureau Assistant

#### **Executive Staff:**

Dave Ross, Secretary
Jay Risch, Deputy Secretary
Eric Esser, Assistant Deputy Secretary

The dates and times of the Medical Examining Board meetings are announced on the DSPS website at http://dsps.wi.gov.

Meeting agendas are posted approximately one week prior to the meeting.

name a few. But while it might be understandable, it would be incorrect and a disservice to our constituents.

The Board keeps uppermost in its deliberations at all times that its job is to protect the public, remediate physician behavior and deter future inappropriate behavior; not to punish. To assist us in maintaining the appropriate perspective we are frequently reminded of and try to keep uppermost in our collective consciousness, all the noble and selfless acts that you, our peers, perform through many different avenues throughout the years. Whether it be volunteering at an AIDS walk, assisting at health screenings, speaking to local groups or simply being secure in the knowledge through direct observation and feedback that the great preponderance of physicians are caring for patients in a kind and professional manner, we reflect on and remind ourselves of your many positive actions and deeds, so that we too perform our duties responsibly and apply the required perspective needed when taking an action. The WI MEB owes this to both our patients and the licensed professionals under our purview.

In conclusion and in an effort to assist all of us in keeping the appropriate perspective, I provide the following quote from Louis L'Amour for your reflection/consideration: "There will be a time when you believe everything is finished. That will be the beginning."

A wealth of useful information is available on the Department of Safety and Professional Services Website at: http://dsps.wi.gov

#### Do you have a change of name or address?

Licensees can update name or address information on the Department website at:

#### https://online.drl.wi.gov/UserLogin.aspx

Please note that confirmation of change is not automatically provided. Legal notices will be sent to a licensee's address of record with the Department.

#### **Telephone Directory:**

Call the Department of Safety and Professional Services toll-free (877) 617-1565, or (608) 266-2112 in the Madison area to connect to the service you need.

#### **Enforcement Actions of the Medical Examining Board**

The Medical Examining Board, with help from staff at the Department of Safety and Professional Services, can take action against licensed professionals around the state to help protect the profession and the citizens of Wisconsin. You may search for any of the Board Orders listed below on the Department's website by using this link:

Board Order Search: http://dsps.wi.gov/Other-Services/Lookup-Orders-Disciplinary

Disciplinary actions are reported to the National Practitioners Non-disciplinary actions are not reported to the National Data Bank. Available options to the Board are:

**Reprimand** - A public warning of the licensee for a violation.

**Limitation of License** - Imposes conditions and requirements upon the licensee, imposes restrictions on the scope of practice, or both.

Suspension - Completely and absolutely withdraws and withholds for a period of time all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential.

**Revocation** - To completely and absolutely terminate the credential and all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential.

Practitioners Data Bank. Available options to the Board are:

Administrative Warning - Issued if violation is of a minor nature, a first occurrence and the warning will adequately protect the public. The issuance of an Administrative Warning is public information, however the reason for issuance is not.

Remedial Education Order - Issued when there is reason to believe that the deficiency can be corrected with remedial education, while sufficiently protecting the public.

## **Board Orders**

### October 2014 - March 2015

Profession	Order No	Order Date	Respondent	City	State
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003343	10/27/2014	Jacobson, Donald M	Racine	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0000345	10/27/2014	Peterson, Kirsten D	Lake Geneva	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003343	11/5/2014	Jacobson, Donald M	Racine	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003558	11/19/2014	Alexander, Avery D	Appleton	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003559	11/19/2014	Ellias, Mazin A-y	Wausau	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003560	11/19/2014	Murphy, James T	Baraboo	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003561	11/19/2014	Mcavoy, Stephen P	New Berlin	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003562	11/19/2014	Cates, Robert C	Brodhead	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003563	11/19/2014	Klingbeil, Jeffrey K	Appleton	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003564	11/19/2014	Congdon, Sandra T	Oxford	CT
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003565	11/19/2014	Poser, John S	Tioga	FL
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003566	11/19/2014	Riesch, John D	Menomonee Falls	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0000861	11/24/2014	Berezovski, Roman	Greenfield	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	LS0302193MED	11/24/2014	Godiwalla, Shirley Yezdi	Pewaukee	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003599	12/17/2014	Kellner, Kenneth J	Marinette	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003126	12/17/2014	Petrovani, Mark S	Madison	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	<u>ORDER0003600</u>	12/17/2014	Chung, Sul	Mequon	WI

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Profession	Order No	Order Date	Respondent	City	State
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003603	12/17/2014	Cavanaugh, Robert A	De Pere	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0002139	12/18/2014	Montemurro, Angelina M	Kenosha	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003411	12/18/2014	Rogow, Linda R	Glendale	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003604	12/18/2014	Liegeois, Nanette J	Oak Brook	IL
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003634	1/21/2015	Fletcher, James R	Shirley	MA
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003635	1/21/2015	Grelle, Amy Rongstad	Cross Plains	WI
Medicine and Surgery, DO	ORDER0003636	1/21/2015	Wentzel, Andrew R	Madison	MN
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003637	1/21/2015	Jolepalem, Srinivas P R	Darien	IL
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003638	1/21/2015	Pietrafitta, Joseph J	Maple Grove	MN
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003639	1/21/2015	Wichser, James A	Blytheville	AR
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0002361	1/26/2015	Sidhu, Devinder Kaur	Pleasant Prairie	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0001276	1/29/2015	Steinhaus, Lyndon	Wauwatosa	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	<u>ORDER0003340</u>	2/6/2015	Agrawal, Vibha	Mequon	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003755	2/18/2015	Lloyd, James Robert	Elm Grove	WI
Medicine and Surgery, DO	ORDER0003756	2/18/2015	Wolski, John D	Pewaukee	WI
Medicine and Surgery, DO	ORDER0003757	2/18/2015	Budde, David S	Berlin	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003758	2/18/2015	Butler, Karen L	Sturgeon Bay	WI
Physician Assistant	ORDER0002310	2/26/2015	Haughey, Carol T	Whitefish Bay	WI
Medicine and Surgery, DO	ORDER0002196	2/26/2015	Meyer, Heath J	Minocqua	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0002832	2/26/2015	Ahmad, Farid A	Greenfield	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	<u>LS09052010MED</u>	2/27/2015	Thomas, Jonathan W	Green Bay	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	LS0112061MED	3/9/2015	Kadile, Eleazar M	Green Bay	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0002139	3/18/2015	Montemurro, Angelina M	Kenosha	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003411	3/18/2015	Rogow, Linda R	Glendale	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003813	3/18/2015	Ali, Zulfiqar	Milwaukee	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003604	3/18/2015	Liegeois, Nanette J	Oak Brook	IL
Medicine and Surgery, DO	ORDER0003814	3/18/2015	Frankwitz, Alicia A	Wayzata	MN
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003815	3/18/2015	Koeller, Arlyn A	Iron River	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003816	3/18/2015	Eiche, Jocelyn K	Wauwatosa	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003817	3/18/2015	Krieger, Westscot G	Appleton	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003818	3/18/2015	Archinihu, Johnspencer C	Orlando	FL
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003819	3/18/2015	Welch, Stephen F	Freeport	IL
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003820	3/18/2015	Zambrano, Isidoro V	Fort Atkinson	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003821	3/18/2015	Dryer, Deborah A	Iron River	WI
Medicine and Surgery, MD	ORDER0003604	3/23/2015	Liegeois, Nanette J	Oak Brook	IL

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